crores, fulfilling the capital adequacy norms as prescribed by the RBI from time to time. These adequacy norms should be reflected in the last published balance sheet.

(ii) Instruments which have been rated by an established credit Rating Agency and have been accorded the highest credit rating signifying highest safety, e.g., Certificates of Deposits, deposits schemes or similar instruments issued by scheduled commercial banks/term lending institutions including their subsidiaries, as well as commercial paper of corporates.

(ii) Inter-corporate loans are permissible to be lent only to Central PSEs, which have obtained highest credit rating awarded by one of the established Credit Rating Agencies for borrowings for the corresponding period.

(iv) Any debt instrument which has obtained highest credit rating from an established credit rating agency.

Decisions on investment of surplus funds shall be taken by the PSU Board. However, decisions involving investing short-term surplus funds upto one year maturity may be delegated upto prescribed limits of investment, to a designated group of director(s), which should invariably include CMD and Director (Finance)/Head of Finance internally. Where such delegation is made, the delegation order should spell out the levels of approval and the powers of each official which should be strictly observed. Where such delegation is exercised, there should be a proper system of automatic internal reporting to the Board at its next meeting in all cases. PSEs should ensure that all investment decisions are in accordance with the regulations as per the Company Law and Government of India instructions and any other relevant legislation and rules as applicable. Any investment already made, which is not in conformity with the above guidelines should not be renewed after maturity.

Every PSE should arrange to place the above guidelines at its next Board meeting and evolve a suitable procedure to cover investment of surplus funds to be followed by the company.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Some of the PSUs are finding difficult to generate funds. As and when such requirements are brought to the notice of the Government, remedial measures are suggested to such PSUs by administrative Ministries concerned. Budgetary support is given on selective basis depending upon the needs of the enterprises as well as availability of funds.

Cases of poisonous gas leakage

8233. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of poisonous gas leakage cases have taken place in different parts of the country during the past four months, especially in Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what safety measures are taken to ensure leakage free operation and handling of poisonous gases and material; and

(d) what steps have been taken to ensurue eco-friendly technologies being adopted in chemical and pharmaceutical industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.